

## SEMICONDUCTOR APPARATUS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A low voltage thyristor is disclosed that can be used to provide protection during electrostatic discharge event. The thyristor is connected between voltage reference nodes having a common potential, such as ground nodes, that are isolated from one another during normal operating conditions. During an ESD event on one of the voltage reference nodes, the low voltage thyristor triggers, at a voltage of less than ten volts, to help discharge the ESD current through the otherwise isolated ground node.

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